



## California

### Former MCAS Tustin

---

#### ***Facility and Location***

Former Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Tustin closed in 1997 as a result of the 1991 Base Realignment and Closure decisions. It is located in southern California near the center of Orange County. The station is approximately 40 miles south of downtown Los Angeles, 100 miles north of the California-Mexico border, and seven miles from Former MCAS El Toro. The station is bordered by the cities of Tustin, Santa Ana, and Irvine. About 4,500 residents lived on the station which employed nearly 5,000 military personnel and civilians. It occupied approximately 1,600 acres of land, of which approximately 30 percent is currently used for agriculture. The remaining area surrounding the station is residential and light manufacturing. Former MCAS Tustin is located within five miles of drinking water supply wells using the underlying aquifer of the Irvine Pressure Sub-basin area. At no time during the history of Former MCAS Tustin has perchlorate been stored or utilized.

Former MCAS Tustin was initially established as a Navy lighter-than-air (LTA) base and was commissioned in September 1942. The station was used to support observation blimps and personnel that were necessary to conduct anti-submarine patrols off the Southern California Coast during World War II. The station served as an LTA base until June 1949 when it was decommissioned. With the Korean conflict, the station was reactivated in May 1951 and commissioned as Marine Corps Air Facility Santa Ana. The name was changed to MCAS (Helicopter) Santa Ana in September 1969 and finally MCAS Tustin in June of 1985. It was the country's first air facility developed solely for helicopter operations. Operational closure occurred in July 1999. Of the approximately 1,600 acres, approximately 1,300 acres were conveyed to the city of Tustin, private developers, and public institutions for a combination of residential, commercial, educational, public recreation, and open-space uses. When environmental cleanup is complete, the remaining approximately 300 acres will be conveyed to other federal agencies, the city of Tustin, and public institutions.

#### ***Media Sampled and Findings***

**Groundwater** — Prior to 2007, 36 of 155 samples detected perchlorate from 0.29 to 4.91 ppb.

#### ***Appropriate Actions***

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb and California Maximum Contaminant Level for drinking water of 6 ppb.